



Morning Highlights

July 16, 2009
Morning Highlights 2009-33
Time: 11:15 am

Contact:
Public Affairs (907) 356-5511
Report Fires: (800) 237-3633

Wildland Fire and Smoke Update

Five new fires were reported to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center Wednesday. The Baby Creek Fire was started by lightning in the Galena Zone and was reported as 520 acres burning in tussock tundra and brush. A fire was reported at Milepost 2 of the Taylor Highway but crews were unable to locate it. Three human caused fires were reported on the Tongass National Forest. One was declared out and two were contained and placed in monitor status.

As of 9 am Thursday, the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center had tallied 409 fires and 965,170.4 acres burned this year. At this time last year, 317 fires had burned 72,114.5 acres. 70 fires are active across Alaska. 12 fires are staffed.

Fire Name	Approx. Location	Acres Burned	Fire Personnel
Railbelt Complex			Alaska Type 2 Incident Mgt. Team
			Beaver/Stevens Type 2 crew
			Fairbanks #3 Type 2 crew
			Idaho City Hotshots
			Upper Tanana #1Type 2 crew
			Boise Hotshots
			Upper Tanana # 4 Type 2 crew
			Bonneville Hotshots
			Fairbanks #1 Type 2 crew
			Fairbanks #4 Type 2 crew
			Pilot Station
			Sawtooth Hotshots
Fires in Complex			355 personnel in Complex
Minto Flats South	12 mi west of Nenana	173,524 acres	
Lunch Lake	20 mi. NW of Nenana	4,515 acres	
June Creek	21 miles NW of Healy	360 acres	

Fire Name	Approx. Location	Acres Burned	Fire Personnel
Shanta Creek	Off Funny River Road Kenai	12,578 acres	452 personnel ordered NIMO Type 1 Alaska Interagency #3 T2 Ambler Type 2 Arctic Village Type 2 Bitterroot Hotshots Chevak #1 Type 2 Chief Mountain Hotshots Denali Type 2IA Helena Hotshots Hooper bay #3 Type 2 Idaho Panhandle Hotshots Kiana #1 Type 2 Lewis & Clark Hotshots Nikolai Type 2 Shageluk Type 2
Sucker River	7 mi. east of Ft. Yukon	1.5 acres	4 personnel
Upper Healy River	15 mi. NE of Healy Lake	61 acres	87 personnel Augusta Hotshots Chevak #2 Type 2 crew Huslia #2 Type 2 crew Midewin Hotshots

For updated information about the Railbelt Complex fires which includes the Minto Flats South Fire, Lunch Lake Fire and the June Creek Fire, call the Fire Information Office in Nenana at 907-832-1097 or 1836. Additional information about the fire is being posted at: www.inciweb.org.

For updated information about the Shanta Creek fire, call the Kenai Wildlife Refuge at 907-260-2338 or 2342. Additional information is posted at www.inciweb.org and <http://kenai.fws.gov>

For updated information about the Chakina Fire, call the Fire Information Office at 907-529-0511 or send email to: ChakinaFireInfo@gmail.com. Additional information is also posted at www.nps.gov/wrst/parkmgmt/firemanagement.htm

A cold front moved through the interior yesterday bringing cooler temperatures and moisture. Northerly winds helped clear out much of the smoke blanketing the interior. Thunderstorm activity and scattered rain showers are possible this afternoon through portions of central Alaska. Winds are expected to shift again by the weekend and more smoke could flow into the interior.

To learn about protecting yourself from smoke, visit:

<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm>

For daily fire information, please visit:

<http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf> and for a map of fire locations, click on "Fire Information" at <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php>

Additional References

- Alaska Interagency Coordination Center: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/>
 - Map of Current Fires: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php>
 - Situation Report: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf>
 - National Fire Situation: <http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf>
 - Guide to Wildland Fire Suppression in AK:
<http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/news/psa/Media%20Guide%20to%20AK%20Wildland%20Fire%20Suppression.pdf>
- Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group- Education and Reference Materials: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/administration/awfcg.php>
- Creating Defensible Space: <http://firewise.org/> and <http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/06Firewise.pdf>
- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, <http://511.alaska.gov/>
Alaska Division of Forestry (Burn Permit Info): <http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn/>
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns): <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm>
- National Parks Service: <http://www.nps.gov/akso/Fire/firehome.htm>
- National Weather Service: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife: <http://www.fws.gov/fire/>
- USDA Forest Service: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/>
- Anchorage Fire Department: www.muni.org/fire
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: <http://airspace.nifc.gov/mapping/nifc/>
- Federal Aviation Administration: <http://www.faa.gov/>

AICC Morning Highlights is compiled by Maggie Rogers (Alaska Division of Forestry) and Doug Stockdale (BLM Alaska Fire Service). ###